

CLAIMS

1. Use of at least one compound chosen from the group consisting of PCOs and derivatives thereof, 5
caffeic acid esters and derivatives thereof and mixtures of these compounds, for the preparation of a composition intended to activate the endogenous synthesis of HSP 32 or a functional peptide fragment of such a protein.
- 10 2. Use according to Claim 1, characterized in that the composition contains at least one UVA-stabilizing and/or UVB-stabilizing screening agent.
- 15 3. Use according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the PCO derivative is a crosslinked PCO.
- 20 4. Use according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the PCO is a PCO from grape seed or a PCO from green tea.
- 25 5. Use according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the caffeic acid ester is oraposide.
- 30 6. Use according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the composition contains pharmaceutically and/or cosmetologically acceptable excipients.
- 35 7. Use according to Claim 6, characterized in that the excipients are suitable for external topical administration.
8. Use according to one of Claims 1 to 7, characterized in that said compound is present in a concentration of between 0.1% and 5% w/w in the composition.

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9. Use according to Claim 8, characterized in that said compound is present in a concentration of between 0.2% and 1% w/w in the composition.
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10. Use according to one of Claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the composition also contains at least one other photoprotective agent.
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11. Use according to one of Claims 7 to 10, characterized in that the composition contains at least one compound chosen from the group consisting of physical sunblocks, sunscreens and free-radical scavengers.
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12. Use according to one of Claims 1 to 11, characterized in that the composition also contains at least one component chosen from:
- forskolin or any extract containing it, in particular extracts of *Plecthantrus barbatus*,
 - tyrosine and its derivatives, in particular malylytyrosine,
 - ellagic acid and its derivatives or any extract containing them,
 - extracts of *Centella asiatica*, of *Potentilla erecta* and of *Eriobotrya japonica*,
 - soybean saponins and alfalfa saponins such as soyasapogenols,
 - isoflavones, in particular formononetin, daidzein and genistein or mixture thereof,
 - vitamin C and its derivatives, in particular vitamin C magnesium phosphate, tocopherol and its esters, in particular tocopheryl gentisate and tocopheryl phosphate,
 - 18- β -glycyrrhetic acid,
 - extracts of *Azadiracta indica*,
 - curcuminoids, in particular a curcumin.
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13. Use according to one of Claims 1 to 12, characterized in that the composition also contains the protein HSP 32 or an active fragment thereof.

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14. Use of at least one compound according to Claims 1 and 3 to 5, which is capable of activating the endogenous synthesis of HSP 32 or a functional peptide fragment of such a protein, in combination with at least one component chosen from:

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- forskolin or any extract containing it, in particular extracts of *Plecthantrus barbatus*,
- tyrosine and its derivatives, in particular malyaltyrosine, with the exception of L-DOPA (or "3-hydroxy-L-tyrosine"),

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- ellagic acid and its derivatives or any extract containing them,

- extracts of *Centella asiatica*, of *Potentilla erecta* and of *Eriobotrya japonica*,

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- soybean saponins and alfalfa saponins such as soyasapogenols,

- isoflavones, in particular formononetin, daidzein and genistein or mixture thereof,

- vitamin C and its derivatives, in particular vitamin C magnesium phosphate, tocopherol and its esters, in particular tocopheryl gentisate and tocopheryl phosphate,

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- 18- β -glycyrrhetic acid,
- extracts of *Azadiracta indica*,

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- curcuminoids, in particular a curcumin, with pharmaceutically and/or cosmetically acceptable excipients, for the preparation of a composition intended for dermatological or cosmetological use.

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15. Use according to Claim 14, characterized in that it contains at least one UVA-stabilizing and/or UVB-stabilizing screening agent.

16. Use according to either of Claims 14 and 15, characterized in that the excipients are suitable for external topical administration.
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17. Use according to one of Claims 14 to 16, characterized in that said compound is present in a concentration of between 0.1% and 5% w/w in the composition.
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18. Use according to Claim 17, characterized in that said compound is present in a concentration of between 0.2% and 1% w/w in the composition.
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19. Use according to one of Claims 14 to 18, characterized in that it also contains at least one other photoprotective agent.
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20. Use according to one of Claims 16 to 19, characterized in that it contains at least one compound chosen from the group consisting of physical sunblocks, sunscreens and free-radical scavengers.
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21. Use to one of Claims 14 to 20, characterized in that it also contains the protein HSP 32 or an active fragment thereof.
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22. Cosmetic method for treating the skin or integuments in order to protect them against the harmful effects of radiation, in particular ultraviolet radiation, characterized in that an effective amount of at least one cosmetic composition according to one of Claims 14 to 21 is applied locally, before or at the time of exposure to said radiation.
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23. Method according to Claim 22, characterized in that it is intended to combat the formation of solar erythema, solar allergies or solar elastosis.
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24. Method according to Claim 22, characterized in that it is intended to prevent or delay actinic ageing of the skin, in particular to prevent or delay the appearance of wrinkles caused by the harmful effects of ultraviolet radiation.
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- 25✓ Application, as a cosmetic product, of the heat shock protein HSP 32.
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26. Use of a compound capable of activating the endogenous synthesis of HSP 32, as defined in one of Claims 1 and 3 to 5, for the preparation of a cosmetic composition for protecting fibroblasts.